

Claims 11-16 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Sano (U.S. Patent No. 5,694,188) in view of Tomio (JP 57-117579), Wakita (U.S. Patent No. 5,574,593), Kobayashi (U.S. Patent No. 5,305,126) and **Arakawa**; claims 17, 18, 21 and 22 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Ohe in view of **Arakawa**, Yoshizo, and Ohnishi (U.S. Patent No. 5,730,899); and claims 17-24 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Sano in view of Tomio, Wakita, Kobayashi, **Arakawa** and Ohnishi. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections because, as noted above, Arakawa does not qualify as prior art with respect to the present application.


Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

A fee in the amount of \$120 for a one-month extension of time is being paid concurrently herewith on the electronic filing system (EFS) by way of deposit account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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